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# Wisconsin Forestry Notes

August 2005

Wisconsin DNR - Division of Forestry

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*Gov. Doyle has charged his newly-formed Consortium on Biobased Industry with mapping strategies to help Wisconsin become a bio-technology leader.*

## New Biobased Industry Initiative Begins

“My vision is to make Wisconsin a leader in the emerging bioeconomy,” stated Governor Doyle in June as he appointed citizens to a newly established consortium. “Virtually everything that can be made from petrochemicals can be made from plants.”

The Consortium on Biobased Industry brings together representatives from various sectors to prepare a roadmap and recommendations on how best to support the development of renewable fuels and energy and bio-based products in Wisconsin. The work of the consortium will help develop and implement policies and legislation that enable state businesses to maximize the value that Wisconsin receives from its renewable forest and agricultural resources while protecting the environment. Wisconsin is well positioned to become the leader in the biobased technologies based on biomass feedstocks from the agricultural and forest industries. These technologies will make possible new sources of affordable electricity, transportation fuels, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals produced from renewable crops and forests grown in Wisconsin. By providing new and more attractive products to these markets, Wisconsin producers will secure long term business and employment advantages. Biobased product and bioenergy technologies also have the potential to help reduce the nation’s reliance on imported petroleum, improve air and water quality, reduce the emission of greenhouse gases and contribute to a cleaner environment nationwide.

The consortium convened on June 27, 2005 and will present their recommendations to the Governor in May 2006. A list of the members is on the Governor’s Website at [http://www.wisgov.state.wi.us/journal\\_media\\_detail.asp?prid=1186](http://www.wisgov.state.wi.us/journal_media_detail.asp?prid=1186)

## Invasive Plant Workshop Offered

*A one-day session will help urban forestry professionals learn about the ecology and management of invasive plants that threaten Wisconsin’s urban forest resources.*

DNR’s urban forestry program is offering a one-day training about invasive plant identification and control on multiple dates in September and October. Professionals managing parks and urban forests today are confronted with the growing problem of these invasive species. Workshop instructors Fred Clark and Amy Staffen of Clark Forestry will introduce them to the identification, ecology and management of invasive plants. A donation of \$20 per person includes the workshop, instructional materials and lunch. Registration deadline is September 2.

Visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/forestry/UF/pdf/InvasivePlantWorkshop.pdf> for the registration form or, for more information about the workshop, contact Katherine Esposito at (608) 267-0568.

## Urban Forestry Grant Dollars Available

*Funding is available to local governments and nonprofit groups throughout Wisconsin to help them care for the urban forest resource in their local communities. Application deadline is October 3, 2005.*

Local governments and nonprofit organizations are invited to submit project proposals to receive support from the approximately \$625,000 of state and federal funds available to improve a community's capacity to manage its trees. Awards from the Wisconsin Urban Forestry Grant Program range from \$1,000 to \$25,000 and are cost-shared on a 50-50 basis. The application deadline for 2006 projects is October 3, 2005 and the application packet is online at

<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/Forestry/UF/grants/pdf/2006GrantApplication.pdf>

For more information about submitting a grant proposal, contact a member of the DNR Urban Forestry team at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/Forestry/UF/staff/index.htm>

## Successful Forestry Trade Mission to China

*A forestry delegation from Wisconsin visited three locations in China this past March to boost sales of Wisconsin wood products to that growing country.*

A forest products trade mission to China earlier this year was deemed a success by the thirteen participants. The main goal of trade missions such as this one is to introduce companies to international trade so they can improve their markets and thus help the economy of Wisconsin. Organized jointly by the University of Wisconsin forestry extension program, Wisconsin Department of Commerce, Wisconsin DNR-Division of Forestry, the Lakes States Lumber Association and the Wisconsin-China trade office in Shanghai, this mission aimed to increase sales of Wisconsin wood products in China as well as collect information on how wood flows into China and gauge the knowledge of Chinese buyers about the U.S. hardwood lumber grades. Wood products specialists at UW-Madison and the USDA Forest Products Lab are translating and analyzing data from a survey conducted during the mission.

During their stop in Shanghai, the group exhibited at an international wood products trade show that had over 500 participants from 27 countries with nearly 17,000 visitors. They also attended a furniture trade show, visited three plants and met with a wood broker in Dongguan, the city in southern China where the bulk of the country's furniture manufacturing occurs. And in Dalian, located just east of Beijing, the trade mission participants visited a home furnishing show and toured four wood working facilities that primarily sell their products to Japan. Because of the Japanese preference for white ash, white oak, basswood and aspen, the area appears to have good potential for possible sales of Wisconsin wood.

For more information, contact [Terry Mace](#), Forest Utilization and Marketing Specialist with the Wisconsin DNR-Division of Forestry at (608) 231-9333.

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**"Wisconsin Forestry Notes" is a monthly electronic publication highlighting programs and activities of the Wisconsin DNR - Division of Forestry, Box 7921, Madison, Wisconsin 53707**  
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